

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BROMLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

Bromley Rural Sanitary District

FOR THE YEAR

1909.

BY

JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D. D.P.H.

BROMLEY, KENT:
KENTISH DISTRICT TIMES Co., LTD., 39, EAST STREET.

1910.



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BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

AREA AND POPULATION.

No. of Registration District.	Area in Statute acres.		Inhabited Houses.			Population.		
	Land and Inland Water.	Inland Water only.	1881	1891	1901	1881	1891	1901
41	28839	40	2770	3237	3655	14303	16818	18808

The above figures omit Chislehurst and Foots Cray, the former of which was constituted an Urban District on April 1st, 1900, and the latter on April 1st, 1902.

Sub Registration Districts.	Area in Statute acres.		Inhabited Houses.			Population.		
	Land and Inland Water.	Inland Water only.	1881	1891	1901	1881	1891	1901
2. Beckenham R.	3942	3	319	409	447	1657	2066	2166
Hayes	1282	..	143	860	118	694	804	838
West Wickham	2660	3	176	249	259	963	1262	1328
3. Orpington ..	21117	21	2038	2336	2607	10458	12138	13442
Chelsfield ..	3378	..	193	232	330	947	1122	1522
Cudham ..	5925	1	217	217	230	1029	1103	1111
Downe ..	1652	..	117	127	139	555	581	610
Farnborough ..	1429	..	237	258	285	1451	1627	2262
Keston ..	1487	8	151	150	171	731	746	832
Knoekholt ..	1701	1	171	191	217	789	872	952
Orpington ..	3517	7	581	760	830	3050	4099	4259
St. Mary Cray ..	2028	4	371	401	405	1906	1988	1894
4. Chislehurst ..	3780	16	413	492	601	2188	2614	3200
Mottingham ..	642	..	130	172	219	779	1037	1332
N. Cray ..	1484	10	130	117	143	635	549	661
St. Paul's Cray	1654	6	153	203	239	774	1028	1207
Total for whole District excluding Foots Cray.	28839	40	2770	3237	3665	14303	16818	18808

The Population of the Bromley Rural District estimated to the middle of 1909 was 20,626, showing an increase of 1818 since the census of 1901, and of 229 on the estimated population of 1908.

The number of registered births was 525, including 250 of males, and 275 of females, and giving a **Birth-rate** of 25.4 per 1,000 of population as compared with 25.8 in the previous year, and 24.2 in 1907.

Three hundred and twenty-six deaths were registered (exactly the same number as in 1908), of which 156 were males, and 170 females. From this number must be deducted 81 deaths in the Union Workhouse and 5 in the St. Paul's Cray Cottage Hospital of non-residents, making a nett total of 240 deaths.

The **Death-rate** was 11.6 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 12.4 in the two previous years.

The **Principal Epidemic Diseases** include Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping-cough, Fever (including the three principal forms: Typhus, Enteric or Typhoid Fever, and Pyrexia of uncertain origin), and Diarrhœa.

Of the total 240 deaths, only 7 were caused by one or other of these diseases, viz., 1 by Whooping-cough, and 6 by Diarrhœa (including Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis).

The **Epidemic Disease Death-rate** was 0.33 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 1.17 in 1908, and 0.5 in 1907.

The **Infant Mortality**, *i.e.*, the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per each 1,000 registered births was 64, as compared with 94 in 1908, and 112 in 1907.

During the year 1909, the Birth-rate in **England and Wales**, taken as a whole, was 25.6 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0.9 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

The Death-rate in 1909 was 14.5 per 1,000, which was 0.2 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was 109, which is 11 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908. The rate in 1909 was lower than in any other year on record.

The Epidemic Disease Death-rate was 1.12 per 1,000 living, against 1.77, 1.28, and 1.34 respectively in the three preceding years.

The vital statistics for **this District** are even better than in former years, and compare exceptionally well with the rates for the whole of England and Wales, the general death-rate, the epidemic disease death-rate, and the infant mortality being respectively 2.9, 0.79, and 45 *below* the corresponding rates for the country generally.

	Death-rate.	Epidemic Disease Death-rate.	Infant Mortality.
England and Wales	14.5	1.12	109
Bromley Rural	11.6	0.33	64
	2.9	0.79	45

The Birth-rate for the District is 0.4 below that of the previous year, and 0.2 below that for England and Wales, but is 0.6 above the average rate for this District for the past 10 years. On the assumption that the population of the district has increased according to the estimation, this rate is very satisfactory, and coupled with the very low death-rate, epidemic disease death-rate, and infant mortality before referred to, steady improvement in health conditions can, I think, be justly inferred.

A more *uniform* infant death-rate is to be aimed at. As it is, this rate is much too dependent on climatic conditions—a hot and dry summer or early autumn leading to a great increase of digestive disturbances, epidemic diarrhoea and other intestinal complaints so fatal during the first year of life.

These diseases—preventible to a large extent—are not limited to town slums and thickly populated places, rural districts suffering to a large extent.

The immunity of naturally fed infants from these intestinal diseases, even when the houses are dirty and other conditions are unfavourable, is very apparent.

In hand fed infants cleanliness and coolness of the milk from the time of milking to the time of its actual ingestion, including scrupulous cleanliness of the vessels of collection, the water used in its dilution and the sugar or any artificial additions employed, are the all-important matters for the exercise of the utmost care.

There is much to be said for and against the pasteurisation and sterilisation of milk, but to my mind the aim should be to make such processes unnecessary by working for the elimination of tuberculous milk and the preservation of the milk by coolness and ordinary cleanliness alone during its passage from the cow to the child.

Much is now being done in this District under the Dairies, &c., Regulations, towards issuing a clean milk, but much is also required after that, viz., cleanliness in transit and in distribution, cleanliness of the vessels into which it is received at people's houses and of the places in which it is stored.

Dirty jugs are often used to take it from the milkman, and it is rarely covered to protect it from flies and other insects, and it remains for hours in a warm kitchen. I think it is little recognised how much tinned milk is used in strictly rural districts where milk is not regularly brought round and has to be fetched from some distance. Sweetened condensed milk on account of its sweetness attracts flies more than ordinary milk, and it is remarked by a well-known authority on this question that “the sugar used in sweetening milk is often black with flies, which may have come from a neighbouring dust-bin or manure heap”—possibly from a still worse source of infection.

A.—NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in the District, viz., Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlet Fever or Scarlatina, and the Fevers known by any of the following names: Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued and Puerperal.

During the year 1909, 65 cases of infectious disease were notified, as against 86 in the previous year, and included 31 cases of Scarlet Fever, 18 of Diphtheria, 13 of Erysipelas, 2 of Puerperal Fever, and 1 of Enteric Fever.

Small-pox. It is satisfactory to report that no cases of this disease occurred throughout the year. There were two cases and one death in 1908.

Scarlet Fever. Thirty-one non-fatal cases of this disease were reported as against 46 cases and one death in the previous year.

They were notified as follows:—

January	...	...	...	...	8 cases.
February	...	...	...	...	2 „
April	...	...	...	...	1 case.
May	...	...	...	...	3 cases.
June	...	...	...	...	1 case.
July	...	...	...	...	1 „
August	...	...	...	...	1 „
September	...	...	...	...	4 cases.
October	...	...	...	...	6 „
November	...	...	...	...	2 „
December	...	...	...	...	2 „

Total ... 31 cases.

Locally they were reported from the following localities:—

Chelsfield	...	...	...	...	13 cases.
Cudham	...	...	...	...	4 „
Orpington	...	...	...	...	3 „
Downe	...	...	...	...	3 „
St. Paul's Cray	...	...	...	...	3 „
Mottingham	...	...	...	...	2 „
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	1 case.
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	...	1 „
Keston	...	...	...	...	1 „

Total ... 31 cases.

The following shows the age-periods at which the cases occurred:—

1—5 years.	5—15 years.	15—25 years.	25—65 years.	
<u>4</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	= 31 cases.

Thirty of the cases were treated in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria. Eighteen non-fatal cases of this disease were notified, as compared with the same number of cases with two deaths in 1908.

In point of time they were notified as follows:—

January	...	...	...	...	4 cases.
February	...	...	...	...	2 „
March	...	...	...	...	1 case.
April	...	...	...	...	3 cases.
August	...	...	...	...	1 case.
November	...	...	...	...	3 cases.
December	...	...	...	...	4 „

Total ... 18 cases.

The cases were distributed over the area District thus:—

Orpington	...	...	...	...	5 cases.
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	...	4 „
Mottingham	...	...	...	...	3 „
Downe	...	...	...	...	2 „
Knockholt	...	...	...	...	1 case.
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	1 „
West Wickham	...	...	...	...	1 „
North Cray	...	...	...	...	1 „

Total ... 18 cases.

The cases occurred at the following periods of life:—

1—5 years.	5—15 years.	15—25 years.	25—65 years.	
<hr/> 7	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1	= 18 cases.

At the house where two of the cases occurred in November it was noticed that a cat was kept which appeared to be in an unhealthy state. Its throat was swabbed, and the swab sent to the Clinical Research Association, who reported that “bacilli were present resembling the short form of the Klebs-Löffler bacillus.” The cat was destroyed.

Erysipelas. Thirteen non-fatal cases of this disease were reported—the same number as in the previous year. They were reported as follows—1 in January at Chelsfield, 1 in March at Orpington, 3 in May (2 at Farnborough and 1 at Hayes), 1 in July at Mottingham, 2 in September at St. Mary Cray, 2 in October (1 at Cudham and 1 at Orpington), 1 in November at Farnborough, and 2 in December (1 at Crockenhill and 1 at Keston).

Three of the patients were children under 15 years of age and the remainder adults.

Puerperal Fever. Two cases of Puerperal Fever were notified in July from the Bromley Union Infirmary. Both patients were persons belong to outside the District, one being resident at Beckenham and one at Bromley Common.

Enteric Fever. Only one non-fatal case of this disease occurred, as compared with four cases and one death in 1908. The patient, an adult female, was notified on September 9th from Farnborough, was removed to hospital the same day, where she was under treatment for over three months.

Tuberculosis in all its forms caused 21 deaths during the year, as compared with 18 in 1908. Of these, 18 deaths were certified as due to Phthisis (consumption of the lungs) as against 16 in 1908. The death-rate from all forms of the disease was 1.01, and the Phthisis death-rate 0.87 per 1,000 of population.

The death-rate in this District from all forms of the disease in 1908 was 0.88, and the Phthisis death-rate 0.78 per 1,000 of population, as compared with rates of 1.58 and 1.11 for England and Wales in that year. The comparative figures for 1909 for the country generally are not yet available.

Phthisis is voluntarily notifiable in the District, and 2 cases were notified to me under this system, as follows:—1 in May at St. Paul's Cray, and 1 in September at Knockholt.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, provide for the compulsory notification by Medical Officers of Poor Law Institutions, and by District Poor Law Medical Officers to the Medical Officers of Health acting for Sanitary Districts of all cases of Phthisis occurring among inmates of Poor Law Institutions, and also among poor persons in receipt of parish relief in private houses, also the notification by Superintending Officers of Poor Law Institutions to Medical Officers of Health of the District of any person leaving an Institution who has been notified as suffering from Phthisis. Fourteen cases were so brought to my notice during the year, viz., 1 of a poor person residing in a private house, and 13 of persons in the Union Workhouse.

In addition to the card system mentioned in my last report, I have now procured a register which is suitable and useful for keeping records of the cases.

Your Council on my recommendation procured a supply of each of the following leaflets and posters for distribution:—

- (a) A card “Hints for Prevention.”
- (b) A leaflet of “Facts and Suggestions.”
- (c) An illustrated poster regarding consumption (used by permission of the New York State Department of Health).
- (d) The same as an illustrated card.
- (e) The same as an illustrated sheet.

These should be extremely useful in bringing home to a patient the precautions which should be observed in order to prevent the infection of other members of the family, and also in illustrating to healthy persons those conditions which tend to cause the disease.

Disinfection of the premises or rooms occupied by patients has been carried out after death, and also when necessary in the case of notification of persons suffering from the disease, and in all cases the above literature has been circulated.

Hospital Isolation.

Forty-six cases of infectious disease were treated in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital, and were admitted as follows:—

January.	10 cases	(8 Scarlet Fever, 2 Diphtheria).
February.	3 ,,	(2 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria).
March.	1 case	(Diphtheria).
April.	4 cases	(1 Scarlet Fever, 3 Diphtheria).
May.	2 ,,	(Scarlet Fever).
June.	1 case	(Scarlet Fever).
July.	1 ,,	(Scarlet Fever).

August.	2	cases	(1 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria).
September.	5	,,	(4 Scarlet Fever, 1 Enteric Fever).
October.	6	,,	(Scarlet Fever).
November.	5	,,	(2 Scarlet Fever, 3 Diphtheria).
December.	6	,,	(2 Scarlet Fever, 4 Diphtheria).

Total 46 cases (30 Scarlet Fever, 15 Diphtheria, 1 Enteric Fever).

At the end of the year there were six Scarlet Fever and two Diphtheria patients in Hospital.

No deaths occurred throughout the year among patients sent in from this District.

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diarrhœa (including Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis) caused 6 deaths during the year---1 in July at Hayes, 2 in September at St. Mary Cray, 2 in October (1 at Orpington and 1 at St. Mary Cray), and 1 in November at Orpington. Five of the patients were infants under 6 months of age and one an adult female.

Whooping-cough was responsible for the death of an infant 14 months of age in October at St. Mary Cray.

Influenza caused 6 deaths—1 in February at Farnborough, 4 in March (1 at Keston and 3 at Farnborough), and 1 in May at Farnborough.

Measles. No deaths resulted from this disease.

Inspections.

The District, which now includes 13 parishes, is divided into parts for the purposes of inspection, viz.:—

No. 1 District (Mr. Nightingale) includes the parishes of:—

	Population at Census of 1901.						
Orpington	4259
St. Mary Cray	1894
Mottingham	1332
North Cray	661
St. Paul's Cray	1207
							<hr/>
							9353
							<hr/>

No. 2 District (Mr. Dunlop) includes the parishes of:—

	Population at Census of 1901:
Hayes	838
West Wickham	1328
Chelsfield	1522
Cudham	1111
Downe	610
Farnborough	2262
Keston	832
Knockholt	952
	<hr/>
	9455
	<hr/>

My inspections during the year have been very numerous, including, in addition to visits of inspection in connection with cases of infectious disease, various visits to West Wickham, Bromley, and London with regard to the West Wickham drainage, various inspections of slaughter-houses, dairies and cowsheds, houses in bad repair at Green-Street-Green, Downe, and Farnborough, ponds at Mottingham and West Wickham, cesspools, Phthisis, suspected meat, drainage and sewerage, common lodging house, &c.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is only one house in the District, situated at Orpington, which comes strictly under the term “Common Lodging House.” This has been frequently inspected and found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

Bye-laws are in force.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

There are 52 persons on the register, whose premises are situated and their trades defined as follows:—

No. 1 District.	
Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors ...	4
Cowkeepers only	6
Dairymen and Purveyors	4
Cowkeepers and Purveyors	3
Purveyors only	5
	<hr/>
	22
No. 2 District.	
Cowkeepers only	25
Cowkeepers and Dairymen	3
Dairymen and Purveyors	2
	<hr/>
	30
	<hr/>
Total	52
	<hr/>

Good work still continues to be done in the improvement of the buildings, and several new systems of drainage and other improvements have been made during the year, while at Orpington an excellent new building with apparatus for cleansing and scalding milk utensils has been erected.

The buildings are generally in a satisfactory condition, but there is still the old fault of allowing manure to be stacked and kept too long near to the sheds.

Regulations are in force.

Slaughter-houses.

There are the same number of slaughter-houses in the District, viz., 16, and they are distributed over the Rural area as follows:—

No. 1 District.							
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Orpington	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
							— 10
No. 2 District.							
West Wickham	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Downe	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Knockholt	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hayes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							— 6
Total							16

The premises have been frequently inspected and found to be kept generally in a satisfactory condition, and up to the standard required by the Bye-laws which are in force. These Bye-laws were adopted on 4th January and allowed by the Local Government Board on the 30th January, 1901.

Mr. Nightingale has regularly attended the Cattle Market which is held weekly at Orpington, and special efforts have been made to prevent the importation of “screwy” animals into the District. It is fairly well known that when inquiries are made as to animals which are known to be suffering from tuberculosis, or which are old and useless, in some cases all that can be ascertained is that the animals have been “got rid of.” It is to be regretted that there are some dealers who trade in this class of animal, the meat of which, there is no doubt in some instances, is used for human consumption at some place or other.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

There are now 166 premises on the register which are defined and spread over the District as shown in the following table:—

PARISHES OR OTHER DEFINITE LOCALITIES.	FACTORIES.					WORKSHOPS.					WORK PLACES.
	Bakehouses.	Other Trades connected with Foods or Drinks.	Laundries.	Other Trades connected with Clothing.	Various.	Bakehouses.	Other Trades connected with Foods or Drinks.	Laundries.	Other Trades connected with Clothing.	Various.	
Orpington	2	..	4	6	..	2	11	14	2
St. Mary Cray	1	...	..	5	2	..	...	4	7	2
Mottingham	1	1	...	3	2	5	1
North Cray	1	...	3	...
St. Paul's Cray	4	3	..	1	1	...	...
Hayes	1	2	...
West Wickham	1	...	4	1	5	...
Chelsfield	2	...	1	...	6	...
Cudham	2	...	..	...	4	...
Downe	2	...	...	1	4	...
Farnborough	2	...	2	5	...	4	3	5	...
Keston	1	2	...	2	3	4	...
Knockholt	1	2	...	1	1	4	...
Totals	1	4	..	18	28	..	19	28	63	5
	23					138					5

The duties required to be carried out under the Act by the Local Authority are carried out as before by the Sanitary Inspectors in their respective parts of the District. The premises have been periodically inspected and found, with the exception of small defects which have been remedied on notice being given, to be generally in good condition.

The Report required by the Secretary of State is appended.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, is in force in the District.

Refuse Removal.

House refuse is collected weekly in the Parishes of Orpington, St. Mary Cray, St. Paul's Cray, Mottingham, Farnborough, and Hayes; and fortnightly in the Parishes of North Cray, Chelsfield, Keston, and West Wickham.

The work is done by contract.

Drainage.

A considerable number of connections with the sewer have again been made at Farnborough and Green-Street-Green, by which the immense trouble and difficulty of emptying cesspools in a porous soil has been done away with. The general sewerage of West Wickham is still in abeyance, but several temporary measures have been adopted for minimising existing nuisances.

Water Supply.

Several premises, previously without a reliable supply of water, have been connected with the Water Board's mains.

Five notices have been received from the Metropolitan Water Board of supplies to houses having been cut off at Green-Street-Green (2), Orpington, Downe, and Hayes, in consequence of the premises being empty or under repair. The supply has since been made good.

Elementary Schools and School Closures.

It was not found necessary to recommend the closure of any of the Elementary Schools during the year on account of the prevalence of infectious disease.

In October a Memorandum was issued, jointly in the names of the Chief Medical Officers of the Local Government Board and the Board of Education, to Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers upon Public Health Administration for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases among children attending Public Elementary Schools, with special reference to the circumstances in which the closure of the schools, or the exclusion of individual scholars, may be necessary.

This important Memorandum is an enlarged and revised edition of a similar one issued by the Local Government Board in January, 1908, and is divided into three parts. Part 1 deals with the code requirements for school closure and exclusion of scholars; and the co-ordination of work of the Medical Officer of Health, of the School Medical Officer, and of other School Officers. Part 2 recommends principles of action on the occurrence of infectious diseases at elementary schools, and Part 3 gives rules for action in respect of particular diseases and rules of official procedure.

It is evidently desirable that working arrangements should be satisfactorily established between the Public Health and the School Authorities if the best results are to be obtained in prevention of the spread of infectious disease in the schools themselves and in the scholars' houses.

Overcrowding.

Cases of overcrowding are still somewhat prevalent in the District, 22 cases having come to the notice of your officials during the year. Although these have all been abated at the spots at which they existed, there is a doubt but that there will be a repetition in other parts of the District, as the absence of suitable cottages renders it a hard matter for the general labouring man, with no permanent employment, to pay the rent of a six-roomed cottage at what to them is a prohibitive rent, and this leads to two families often being found to occupy one house—hence the overcrowding.

Bye-laws and Adoptive Acts.

The following Bye-laws, Regulations, and Adoptive Acts are in force in the District:—

Bye-laws with regard to Common Lodging Houses, adopted 24th June and confirmed by the Local Government Board, July 10th, 1902.

Bye-laws with regard to Slaughter-houses, adopted January 4th and allowed by the Local Government Board, 30th January, 1901.

Bye-laws with respect to tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation, adopted 6th November and allowed by the Local Government Board, 27th November, 1906.

Bye-laws for securing the decent lodging and accommodation of persons engaged in hop-picking or in the picking of fruit and vegetables, adopted 24th February, 1899, and allowed 7th March, 1899.

Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings in the following portions of the Rural District which comprise the contributory places of:—West Wickham, Chelsfield, New Chelsfield Special Drainage District, Cudham, Farnborough, Keston, Knockholt, Orpington, St. Mary Cray, and Mottingham.

Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, adopted 15th January, 1907, and came into force 1st March, 1907.

Your Council has decided to apply to the Local Government Board for the issue of an Order declaring the following parts of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, to be in force in the whole of the Rural District:—

Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Section 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 31, 32, and 33.

Part 3 Sanitary Provisions). Sections 36, 37, 38, 43, 44, and 45, 49 and 51.

Part 4 (Infectious Disease). Sections 52 to 68 (both inclusive).

and Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, and 27, to be in force in the contributory places of New Chelsfield Special Drainage District, Downe, Farnborough, Keston, Knockholt, Mottingham, Orpington, St. Mary Cray, and West Wickham.

River Cray.

A length of supporting wall has been put up along the back of the river in the parish of North Cray, and this, with an improvement made within the area of the Chislehurst Urban District Council, also near Foots Cray Bridge, is a substantial help in producing a more regular flow, and, therefore, greater cleanliness of the river at this point.

Hop and Fruit Picking.

In No. 1 District there are about 450 huts in addition to a number of bell-tents and caravans used during the fruit-picking season, but very few hops are grown.

In No. 2 District there are about 200 huts and several disused tramcars. In this portion only about 16 acres of hops are grown. Care is taken that no huts are used for habitation from November to February—both months inclusive—and notices are usually sent out to the growers requesting that the huts be limewashed and prepared for occupation before the season comes on.

Reports during Year.

I have made reports to your Council on the results of my inspection of premises in respect of which applications have been made for registration as Dairies, Cowsheds, &c.; on method of Strawberry growing; Phthisis; Accommodation for Hop-pickers; Drainage at Green-Street-Green; Insanitary Cottages at Farnborough, &c.

Proceedings Advised under the Public Health Acts.

Mr. Dunlop seized in October at Farnborough several rabbits and some fish intended for human consumption and which were unfit for that purpose. Proceedings were instituted, with the satisfactory result that the Vendor was fined £5 and the costs incurred.

In another case the carcase of a pig was examined by me and was destroyed; also a quantity of fish.

The **Health of the District** at the end of the year was satisfactory. There were a few cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, but no epidemic.

The reports of the work carried out by each of the Sanitary Inspectors, the statistical tables required by the Local Government Board, and the table provided by the Secretary of State for recording action taken under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, are appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

April 5th, 1910.

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

No. 1 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

ORPINGTON,

3rd February, 1910.

To the **CHAIRMAN** and **MEMBERS** of

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my report on Sanitary work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1909.

The number of visits paid to the respective Parishes in the District are as follows:—

Orpington, 211; St. Mary Cray, 135; St. Paul's Cray, 71; North Cray, 49; Mottingham, 52.

Infectious Disease. During the year, 28 cases of Infectious Disease were notified, namely:—Diphtheria, 13; Erysipelas, 6; Scarlet Fever, 9; being a decrease of 18 as compared with the previous year.

The number of cases occurring in the respective Parishes were:

Orpington, 10; St. Mary Cray, 8; St. Paul's Cray, 3; North Cray, 1; Mottingham, 6.

Two cases of Diphtheria were evidently caused by a cat. Being suspicious, I swabbed the cat's throat, and sent specimens for examination, and the result proved almost beyond doubt that the animal had Diphtheria.

Disinfection. Twenty-two houses or parts of houses were fumigated with "Sulphume" or "Formalin," the owner or occupier cleansing and limewashing afterwards.

Complaints. Forty-nine complaints were received and investigated; of these 16 related to offensive accumulations, 13 to drains, 6 to dirty houses, 4 to sewer smells, 4 to insufficient water-closets, 3 to animals, 2 to overcrowding, and 1 to unsound food.

Drainage and Drain Testing. The drains in connection with 34 houses were examined and tested. At 16 houses the drains were taken out and re-laid, and at 18 houses the drains were repaired.

I have found in one or two instances that new drains have become blocked, owing to cement fringing being left inside the pipes, and to overcome this difficulty, I am recommending the builders to use a drain "badger," and where the drains are laid to a straight line, the inside of the pipes are examined by means of reflectors.

Insufficient Water-Closets. Flushing cisterns with water laid on thereto, new soil-pans and traps, have been provided to 13 houses.

Insufficient Ash-pits. Sixty houses have been provided with moveable sanitary dust-bins.

Dirty and Defective Dwellings. Seventy-five houses have been generally repaired, cleansed, limewashed, and made fit for habitation.

Overcrowding. Thirteen cases of overcrowding were discovered and abated. I regret there is little improvement in this direction; the absence of cheap houses, and lack of employment, tend to encourage two families to crowd into 4 to 6 roomed dwellings.

Common Lodging House. The Common Lodging House at Fordcroft, Orpington, was frequently visited, and upon each of my visits, I found the house clean and well ordered.

Slaughter-houses and Cattle Market. There are ten slaughter-houses in the district, which were frequently visited during the year, and I found the Bye-laws were generally observed.

I have also regularly attended the weekly Cattle Market at Orpington.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops. There are 22 persons on the register as Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk, and the premises where trade is carried on are frequently inspected.

A new building, fitted with apparatus for cleansing and scalding milk utensils has been erected at Hodsoll's Dairy Farm, Orpington.

Unsound Food. The carcase of a pig; 4 trunks of fresh haddocks and whiting; and a quantity of shell-fish, were examined, confiscated, and disposed of, so as to prevent same being sold for human food.

Fruit Pickers' Huts. The huts for temporary accommodation of persons engaged in fruit picking were frequently visited during the season.

In two instances notices were served upon the owners of huts requiring the provision of water supply for the pickers.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. The register required to be kept under this Act, contains entries of 17 Factories, (including Factory Laundries), 66 Workshops, and 5 Workplaces. These have been inspected, and the Sanitary provisions of the Act were generally observed.

River Cray. During the year. I have made a number of inspections at various parts of the river, and with a view to prevent refuse and other filth being thrown into the stream, notices were delivered to occupiers of houses abutting on to the river, warning them against throwing refuse into the stream.

The riparian owners were also communicated with, requesting them to clear out weeds and refuse, but this was responded to only in a half-hearted manner; still I think the stream was in better condition last year than it has been for several years.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of Nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	259
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	29
Number of Letters, Reports, and School Notices sent	...	...	...	...	595
Reports made to Orpington Parish Council	...	...	...	...	9
Reports made to St. Mary Cray Parish Council	...	...	...	...	7
Houses at which drains were examined	...	...	...	...	34
Houses at which drains were re-laid	...	...	...	...	16
Infected rooms disinfected and cleansed	...	...	...	...	22
Houses generally repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	75
New flushing cisterns provided and water laid on	...	...	...	...	13
New dust-bins provided	...	...	...	...	60
Cesspools abolished and drains connected to Sewer...	...	...	...	...	1
Back yards paved	...	...	...	...	26
Cowsheds, milkshops, bakehouses, and slaughter-houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	47

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY NIGHTINGALE,

Cert. Royal San. Inst.,

Sanitary Inspector.

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

No. 2 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

FARNBOROUGH,

January 26th, 1910.

To the **CHAIRMAN** and **MEMBERS** of the
BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my twelfth annual report.

During the year 1909 the number of visits made in the several Parishes is as follows:—Chelsfield, 103; Cudham, 40, Downe, 32; Farnborough, 172; Hayes, 40; Knockholt, 42; Keston, 38; and West Wickham, 76.

Complaints. Thirty complaints were received and investigated. Of these, 20 related to cesspools and 10 to animals being improperly kept.

Infectious Disease. During the year 37 cases were notified as follows:—Scarlet Fever, 22; Erysipelas, 7; Diptheria, 5; Puerperal Fever, 2; and Enteric Fever, 1. There were no deaths. It was found necessary to disinfect 28 rooms, which were afterwards cleansed by the owners.

Drainage and Drain Testing. The new system of drainage at Cudham Council School (mentioned in my last report) is completed.

The 121 houses situate in Cobden, Pitt, Palmerston, and Gladstone Roads, Farnborough, have been connected with the sewer and cesspools abolished.

With the exception of half-a-dozen isolated premises, all the houses, both in Farnborough and Locksbottom, are now on main drainage. All new drains were laid in concrete and subjected to the water test before being covered in.

The drainage in connection with 30 houses in other Parishes were found defective, and the same were entirely re-constructed in each case.

Water Supply. Six houses were provided with a wholesome and sufficient water supply.

Nuisances Discovered. The number of nuisances discovered and abated was 280:—146 related to cesspools, 30 to defective drains, 46 to closets of various kinds, 30 to offensive accumulations, and 28 to animals.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops. There are 25 licensed cowsheds, 3 dairies, and 2 milkshops.

New systems of drainage have been carried out at “Highfields,” Knockholt, and “Rowse Farm,” West Wickham. The general cleansing and whitewashing of the sheds was carried out twice during the year in accordance with the Regulations. There is, however, room for improvement as regards nuisances which frequently arise from the “piling up” of the manure against the “sheds,” and several notices were served requiring abatement.

Bakehouses. There are 16 registered bakehouses which have been regularly cleansed and whitewashed, as required by Section 99 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Slaughter-houses. There are six licensed slaughter-houses, and the Bye-laws were duly complied with. The licenses have been renewed, but strict observation is being kept on the possible importation of “screwy” animals.

Laundries. There are twelve registered laundries, which have been regularly inspected, and there was no infringement of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Insanitary Dwellings. Twenty-four insanitary dwellings were dealt with and generally repaired and cleansed.

Fruit Pickers' Shelters. During the fruiting season, 38 visits were paid to these “shelters,” and several cases of overcrowding dealt with. The “shelters” have been closed for the winter months.

Overcrowding. Nine cases of overcrowding in houses were abated during the year.

Insufficient Water-Closets. Flushing cisterns, new soil-pans, and traps have been provided in connection with 46 houses.

Insufficient Ashpits. Fifty-six houses have been provided with sanitary dust-bins.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. The register contains the names of six factories and 72 workshops.

Periodical inspections were made and the requirements of the Act were duly carried out.

Unsound Food at Farnborough. On October 19th I seized from a hawker's van at Farnborough, several rabbits and fish intended for the food of man, and which was unsound and unwholesome. The vendor was summoned under the Public Health Act, 1875, and fined £5 and 12s. costs. Defendant was warned by the Bench that if he were summoned and convicted of a similar offence again the penalty would be much heavier.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of complaints received during the year	...	30
Number of houses re-drained	... ..	151
Number of houses connected with the sewer	... ..	141
Number of inspections made in course of new drainage work	... ..	200
Number of water-closets provided	... ..	46
Number of earth-closets provided	... ..	16
Number of dust-bins provided	... ..	36
Number of privies cleansed	... ..	44
Number of cesspools constructed (water-tight)	...	8
Number of urinals cleansed and limewashed	... ..	44
Number of offensive accumulations removed	... ..	36
Number of houses cleansed, repaired and white-washed	... ..	24
Dust removal—Number of communications received and attended to	... ..	42
Legal proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses	... ..	1
Preliminary notices served and complied with	...	60
Statutory notices served and complied with	... ..	7
Number of letters written and school notices issued...		554

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ANDREW DUNLOP,

Cert. Royal San. Inst.,

Sanitary Inspector.

Table 1.—For Whole District

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the district.				Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents regis- tered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		
		Number.	Rate. *	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages				Number.	Rate. *	
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	32,220	759	23.3	106	142	444	13.7	106	39	21	426	13.2
1900	32,923	850	25.8	89	125	465	14.1	139	39	13	439	13.3
1901	24,625	642	26.0	59	91	325	13.1	100	55	8	278	11.2
1902	25,225	530	21.0	57	107	333	13.2	92	56	8	285	11.2
1903	19,287	511	26.4	48	93	289	14.9	108	51	..	238	12.3
1904	19,504	483	24.7	64	132	314	16.0	118	71	3	246	12.6
1905	19,723	492	24.9	31	63	288	14.6	121	57	..	231	11.7
1906	19,946	533	26.7	61	114	332	16.6	121	50	3	285	14.2
1907	20,172	489	24.2	55	112	322	15.9	116	72	1	251	12.4
1908	20,397	528	25.8	50	94	326	15.9	123	78	6	254	12.4
Averages for Years 1899-1908.	23,402	581	24.8	62	107	343	14.8	114	56	6	293	12.4
1909	20,626	525	25.4	34	64	326	15.8	126	86	—	240	11.6

* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 should be calculated per 1,000 of the estimated gross population. In districts in which large public institutions seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Column 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “ Non-residents ” is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term “ Residents ” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The “ Public institutions ” to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 29,557.

At Census of 1901 :—Total population at all ages 24,625. Number of inhabited houses, 4,819. Average number of persons per house, 5.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm patients from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Union Workhouse (in Parish of Farnborough). Cottage Hospital, St. Paul's Cray.	Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital (Bromley Urban District.)	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? Yes.

Table 2.

Names of Localities.	Bromley Rural. (Whole District).				Beckenham Sub-Registration District.				Orpington Sub-Registration District.				Chislehurst Sub-Registration District.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1900	32,923	850	439	89	1,617	21	17	6	...	...	...	...	4,390	43	20	5
1901	24,625	642	278	59	2,166	40	11	1	13,442	356	151	28	9,017	246	116	30
1902	25,225	530	285	57	2,174	49	24	3	13,597	355	178	41	9,454	126	83	13
1903	19,287	511	238	48	2,189	53	23	7	13,749	369	177	30	3,349	89	38	11
1904	19,504	483	246	64	2,199	43	27	4	13,888	347	176	52	3,417	93	43	8
1905	19,723	492	231	31	2,210	44	28	5	14,026	358	156	18	3,487	90	47	8
1906	19,946	533	285	61	2,220	45	42	6	14,168	403	197	41	3,558	85	46	14
1907	20,172	489	251	55	2,230	35	31	6	14,311	373	198	43	3,631	81	22	6
1908	20,397	528	254	51	2,241	42	23	3	14,451	392	187	41	3,705	94	44	6
Averages of Years 1900-1908.	22,422	562	300	57	2,138	41	25	4	13,941	369	177	36	4,889	105	73	11
1909	20,626	525	240	34	2,252	44	17	...	14,593	387	188	24	3,781	94	35	10

NOTES.—(a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block I. may, if desired, be used for the whole district; and blocks 2, 3, etc., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table need not be filled up.

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns c of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms “resident” and “non-resident.”)

(c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.: thus the totals of sub-columns a, b, and c should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12, respectively, of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-columns c should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns d with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

Table 3.—Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1909.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total cases Notified in each Locality.			No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality.			Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Age†—Years.												
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Becken-ham.	Orying-ton.	Chisle-hurst.	Becken-ham.	Orying-ton.	Chisle-hurst.	
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Memb. croup)	18	7	8	2	1	...	1	13	4	...	...	2	...	15
Erysipelas	13	1	2	...	7	3	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	31	4	17	7	3	...	...	26	5	...	...	5	...	30
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Voluntary	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Poor Law Cases	14	...	1	2	11	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	81	12	29	11	26	3	2	68	11	...	39	7	46	

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II and IV.

State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent, and the accommodation, available for the district, afforded by it. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the authority by whom the Hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.

+ These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital, Bromley Common, Kent—Total beds available, 113; number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 5. Small Pox Hospital—Total available beds, 33; number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 1.

Table 4.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1909.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in Localities (at all ages).			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Becken-ham.	Orping-ton.	Chisle-hurst.	
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza ..	6	..	..	1	1	1	3	1	5	..	1
Whooping-cough ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Diphtheria, Membran- ous Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Asiatic Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa, Dysentery	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..
Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Enteritis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other continued fevers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other septic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Intermittent Fever & Malarial Cachexia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis of Meninges	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Tuberculosis of Lungs	18	1	2	1	2	11	1	1	15	2	8
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Alcoholism	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Cancer	19	..	..	..	..	11	8	2	15	2	9
Premature Birth ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Developmental Diseases	18	16	2	..	..	..	..	..	13	5	8
Old Age	17	..	..	..	..	..	17	2	11	4	40
Meningitis	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Inflammation and Softening of Brain ..	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	..	1
Organic Diseases of Heart	15	..	..	..	1	5	9	1	12	2	1
Acute Bronchitis ..	6	4	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	4	1
Chronic Bronchitis ..	26	..	..	..	..	7	19	1	20	5	11
Lobar (Croupous) Pneumonia	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	1
Lobular (Broncho-) Pneumonia	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1
Diseases of Stomach	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	2
Obstruction of Intes- tines	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	..
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	4	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	3	..	2
Tumours and other Affections of Female Genital Organs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents and Diseases of Parturition .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Deaths by Accidents or Negligence	5	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	4	1	2
Deaths by Suicide ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Deaths from Ill-defined causes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes ..	78	4	2	1	2	23	46	7	62	9	33
All causes	240	34	11	6	6	69	114	17	188	35	126

Table 5.—BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes—Certified		7	3	2	..	12	6	1	3	1	4	..	3	2	1	..	1	34
Uncertified		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Common Infectious Diseases		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Diarrhoeal Diseases.—(See Notes to Table 4).		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Diarrhoea, all forms ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Wasting Diseases		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth ..		2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Congenital Defects (See Notes to Table 4)		2	1	1	..	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	8
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ..		1	1	..	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
4. Tuberculous Diseases		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Other Tuberculous Diseases (See Notes to Table 4)		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculosis) ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions ..		2	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4
Bronchitis ..		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	4
Pneumonia ..		..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Suffocation, overlaying ..		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		7	3	2	..	12	6	1	3	1	4	..	3	2	1	..	1	34

District of Bromley Rural—Population, estimated to middle of 1909, 20,626.

Births in the year—Legitimate, 483; Illegitimate, 42. Deaths in the year of Legitimate Infants, 31; Illegitimate Infants, 3.
Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 240.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	16	0	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	203	18	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	5	0	0
Total	224	18	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	No. Found.	No. Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prosecu- tions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of cleanliness	38	38	0	0
Want of ventilation	5	5	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Want of drainage of floors	8	8	0	0
Other nuisances	17	17	0	0
Sanitary accommodation insufficient	1	1	0	0
Total	69	69	0	0

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been put in force in the District.

3.—HOME WORK.

	No. of Address of Outworkers received from other Councils.
Wearing Apparel—	
(1) Making, &c.	1
Total	1

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	
Workshop Bakehouses	28
Other Workshops	110
Workplaces	5
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	143

